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JUL 18 2002

Mr. Jeff Morales, Director CALTRANS 1120 N Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Mr. Greg Wong

Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500

Re: SJCOG FY2000/01 to 2002/03 FTIP Amendment No. 18

Dear Mr. Morales:

We have completed our review of San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) Amendment No. 18 to its FY2001/03 Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) for inclusion into California's current Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

We accept this amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that this SJCOG amendment was developed based on a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process in accordance with 23 USC 134 and section 49 USC 53 of the Federal Transit Act, as revised by the Metropolitan Planning Rule issued October 28, 1993, and effective November 29, 1993. The changes made to the program by this amendment are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed [40 CFR §93.126 and/or §93.127].

This finding has been coordinated with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The actions documented in these amendments do not affect the conformity determination for the 2001/03 FTIP. Therefore, we find this amendment to be in conformity with the State Implementation Plan (SIP). This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of SJCOG's TIP Amendment into California's 2001/03 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

Furthermore, this approval is made with the understanding that any FTA funding approval on individual projects contained in the FSTIP is subject to all other FTA administrative requirements.

Sincerely,

Leslie T. Rogers/

Regional Administrator

Copy to: SJCOG FTIP Binder FSTIP Binder FTA Jerome Wiggins FHWA, Dennis Scovill SJCOG, Julia E. Greene EPA Karina O'Conner Caltrans:

Transportation Programming, Greg Wong (FAX: 916-654-2738)